

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 11, 2010, has been carefully studied.

Claims 1-8 currently appear in this application. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and formal allowance of the claims.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the boronic acid selector shifts the equilibrium of the reaction to a desired isomer. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification as filed at paragraphs [0031-0032].

New claim 8 has been added. Support for claim 8 can be found in the specification as filed at paragraph 0031.

Art Rejections

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Petasis et al., US 6,927,294.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Petasis disclosed a method for incorporating an amine moiety into a suitably protected carbohydrate derivative to produce a nitrogen heterocyclic azasugar derivative. Boronic acid is used as a protective agent for protecting sugars. This is not at all the same as the process claimed herein, which produces a carbohydrate library by subjecting a carbohydrate scaffold to intramolecular

acyl migration using a boronic acid selector. As described in the present specification at paragraph [0017], boronic acids form five-membered cyclic esters preferably with 1, 2-diols in sugar. In the presently claimed process, boronic acids shift the equilibrium in favor of one isomer over the others. There is nothing in Petasis regarding controlling which isomers are formed or shifting reaction equilibrium using a boronic acid. Petasis merely uses boronic acid as a protecting group.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bourne et al., *Journal of Chromatography*, **1(2)**:253-257, 1953, in view of Petasis.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.


The Examiner concedes that Bourne does not teach acyl migration of boronic acid compounds. As noted above, Petasis teaches the use of boronic acid as a protecting group for carbohydrate derivatives. Neither of these references has anything to do with controlling acyl migration by using boronic acid as a selector to determine which isomer produced will dominate the reaction product.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

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Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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